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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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in Wroclaw

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DATE OF INFORMATION

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50X1-HUM

1. "The following are the conditions prevailing in Wroclaw [redacted]  
[redacted]
2. "The predominant part in the political, economic and cultural life is being played by the Communist Party (PZPR). In fact, Wroclaw occupies fourth place after Warsaw, Lodz and Katowice, as far as the internal discipline of the Party and its influence are concerned - according to an estimate of the Central Committee of the Party. The basis for the sovietization of Wroclaw was created by the two former Party secretaries, (fnu) Matwin and, after him, (fnu) Witaszewski. Matwin was appointed chief of the Polish Youth Association ZMP in Warsaw in 1948, while Witaszewski has become the chief organizer of the office of the Central Committee. The administration of the city, and especially of the department of Justice, is controlled by the Communists to a far larger extent than in any other Polish city.  
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3. "In the Municipal Committee of the CP, the most important member is a certain (fnu) Kleszczewski, (the Party secretary (fnu) Geruga having been transferred to Rzeszow).  
[redacted]
4. "Together with Kleszczewski works a Chaim Chakiel [redacted] Very unpopular in Wroclaw is Dr. (fnu) Bulka, the head of the Health Department and a member of the Board of the Wroclaw National Council. [redacted]  
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50X1-HUM
5. "Despite all the propaganda about the development of Wroclaw, only large Party buildings and offices are being built, hardly any new houses for the increasing number of inhabitants. This policy has resulted in a catastrophic housing situation. About 60% of houses damaged, which could have been easily repaired, are now completely ruined by weather. The ZOR (Zjednoczenie Osiedli Robotniczych), a state-controlled society for building of workers' settlements has done nothing to improve the acute shortage of houses for workers. As a shining contrast stands the large building of the Voievodshaft Committee of the Communist Party, which looks like a palace.

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6. "Some of the public utility services are working badly--for example, the local electric power station. There is hardly a night without a power cut, which normally lasts for several hours. This particularly affects the workers' sections of the city, Biskupin and Zalesie. The transport services are also inadequate. Compared with the 900 streetcars before the war there are now only 300 running.
7. "There are only 8 movie houses with about 4,000 seats for 400,000 inhabitants. If sometimes an American, British or French film comes to Wroclaw, thousands of people queue up for the tickets. The Soviet films, which are shown almost exclusively, are not completely boycotted, although attendance is rather poor.
8. "Bureaucracy is enormous and is still on the increase, as more and more control and supervision authorities are set up. Quite recently, apart from the existing special control commission (Komisja Specjalna), which controls the prices, a new state trade inspectorate PIH (Panstwowa Inspekcja Handlowa) was established. It has the power to control the shops day and night."

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